

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Attached for filing is the patent application of:

Inventor: **HANMER**

Entitled: **VACUUM PACKAGING OF ARTICLES**

and including attachments as noted below:

- ☒ Declaration, ☒ Abstract  
11 pages of specification and claims (including 5 numbered claims), and  
5 sheets of accompanying drawing/s.  
☒ Record & return the attached assignment to the undersigned.  
☒ Priority is hereby claimed under 35 USC 119 based on the following foreign applications, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application:

**Application Number**

9905214.4

**Country**

Great Briatin

**Day/Month/Year Filed**

8 March 1999

, respectively.

- ☐ Certified copy(ies) of foreign application(s) is/are attached..  
☐ Please amend the specification by inserting before the first line --This is a \_\_\_\_\_ of PCT application \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.--  
☐ Priority is hereby claimed under 35 USC 120/365 based on the following prior PCT applications designating the U.S., the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application:

**Application Number**

**Country**

**Day/Month/Year Filed**

- ☐ This application is based on the following prior provisional application(s):

**Application No.**

**Filing Date**

respectively, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application, and priority is hereby claimed therefrom.

Please amend the specification by inserting before the first line: -- This application claims the benefit of U.S.

Provisional Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.

Verified Statement attached establishing "small entity" status (Rules 9 & 27)

The Examiner's attention is directed to the prior art cited in the parent application by applicant and/or Examiner for the reasons stated therein.

Preliminary amendment to claims (attached hereto), to be entered before calculation of the fee below.

Also attached: **PTO-1449 and International Search Report**

**FILING FEE IS BASED ON CLAIMS AS FILED LESS ANY HEREWITH CANCELED**

Basic Filing Fee				\$	690.00
Total effective claims	5	- 20 (at least 20) =	0	x \$	18.00
				\$	0.00
Independent claims	2	- 3 (at least 3) =	0	x \$	78.00
				\$	0.00
If any proper multiple dependent claims now added for first time, add \$260.00 (ignore improper)				\$	0.00
				<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	\$ 690.00
If "small entity," then enter half (1/2) of subtotal and subtract				-\$	( 0.00)
				<b>SECOND SUBTOTAL</b>	\$ 690.00
Assignment Recording Fee (\$40.00)				\$	40.00
				<b>TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED</b>	\$ 730.00

Any future submission requiring an extension of time is hereby stated to include a petition for such time extension.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our **Account No. 14-1140**. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

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**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By Atty: Stanley C. Spooner, Reg. No. 27,393

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_